

**Shady Side Elementary PTO
January 2020 General Meeting Minutes**

Date, Time, & Location: Thursday, January 16, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in the SSES Media Center Classroom
Meeting called to order by President Julia Howes at 6:33 p.m.

Attendance: Julia Howes, Brandi Harmel, Kat Denning, Kristin Rattie, Alane Connolly, Melissa Brown, Ash Barksdale, Nicole Drennan, Kelly Brantner, Jessica Gryzbowski, Thea Quible, and Lisa Taylor-Soriero

Minutes: The minutes of the October 2019 general meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: given by Brandi Harmel

- Fall Book Fair brought in \$2,874.90, just shy of its \$3,000 estimate line.
- Spirit Nights, including the Vendor Fair, have brought in \$1,146 so far this school year.
- The two next main fundraisers will be the Family Fun Bingo Night (Feb. 28) and the Boosterthon (May).
- The PTO has made many additional special purchases for the school this year, including: new Chromebooks and a cart, 2nd grade STEAM supplies, morning greeter supplies, guided reading materials for Kindergarten, and the school-wide yoga program.
- Potential additional special fund spending is open for consideration.

SSES Principal's Report: given by Melissa Brown

- **Building Updates:**
 - Painting - A special thank you to Julia Howes and her daughter Zoey for painting the main hallway over Winter Holiday Break.
 - New Doors - There will be some construction at night in the school to replace some of the old doors that need to be brought up to code.
 - Band & Strings Room - They are looking into finally getting a wall to divide the Music classroom from the space intended for Band & Strings this summer.
 - Security Locks - Some exterior doors will have security card locks installed to make it easier for teachers to access areas necessary for safety.
- **Curriculum Updates:**
 - Teachers just completed school-wide training for Google Classroom.
 - CogAT Assessment Testing for 2nd and 5th graders is in progress. This testing helps assess for potential gifted and talented (G&T) students.
- **Program/Event Updates:**
 - Dad's Day is the morning of January 23rd. Registration to attend is in progress.
 - The Yoga Program received excellent feedback from students and teachers; February 4 is the Teacher Yoga Day in the morning
 - Shady Side students will be performing in the Dance Festival on February 6 at Annapolis High School
 - Our next Project Unity Day will be coming up on February 12 and will focus on building equity in classrooms as well as promoting kindness and preventing bullying.
 - The School has an Anti-Bullying Assembly coming up next week (January 24) for students
- **Pre-K Registration Updates: **KEY CHANGES****
 - Students located in the Shady Side school zone will no longer be split across to Carrie Weedon any longer. If you are in the Shady Side zone, you will ONLY be able to apply for Pre-K at Shady Side.
 - Those in line for registration will now receive time and date stamps which will be recognized across all schools to help those who may go to the incorrect location not lose their place in line
 - Category 1 and Special Needs children will now take up a larger percentage of seats in South County.

For More Information, Visit: <https://www.aacps.org/Page/1514>

- **Community Relations:** The South County Community Church has expressed an interest in seeking ways to potentially help the school and PTO. They have worked with the PTO in the past on projects such as beautifying the school front landscape.

SSE Teacher's Representative Report: given by Alane Connolly

- **No New Requests**
- **Other:**
 - Families are requested to continue to submit #AACPSReadWithMe photos of their students reading at home to their teachers for inclusion on the @ShadySideAACPS twitter feed.
 - The Staff would like to thank the PTO and families who donated to the Holiday Luncheon in December
 - Girls on the Run registration is open. Registration closes on January 24. Practice Begins in February.

Human Relations Report: given by Brandi Harmel

- Dad's Day is coming up on January 23rd, forms for registration have gone home.
- Next Friday (January 24) will potentially be Super Hero Day to tie in with the Assembly.
- A request was made to cancel "twin days" in the future due to issues with social dynamics.

AACPS Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Report: given by Julia Howes

- Julia is on the CAC again this year representing the Southern Cluster. She is also on the policy committee.
- They are currently looking at revising CAC policy issues, such as term length and term caps as well as board agenda rules (when can things be added, deleted, or moved around in agendas and meetings)
- Recess Policies are still under consideration, including the potential for more movement options and brain breaks during the day.

Committee Reports:

Boosterthon: given by Kelly Brantner

- Boosterthon will be held in May, specific date pending
- She is looking into T-Shirt plans for this year's event including options for sponsor inclusion
- The committee is looking to revamp the sponsorship options and for additional volunteers to help seek new sponsors.

Dance: given by Jessica Gryzbowski

- The dance is scheduled for April 3 and is open for all students K-5th grade. Ticket Pre Sales to start in March.
- They are currently looking for themes and ideas as well as volunteers for help running the event (decorations, food sales, registration tables, and more)
- Options for pre-paying on food items are also under consideration

BINGO Night: given by Julia Howes

- Family Fun BINGO Night is set for February 28. Information was included in the January PTO Newsletter.
- They are currently working on sponsorships for themed basket prizes for each round.
- Volunteers will be needed for the event

Restaurant Night: given by Kat Denning

- February restaurant night is set to be hosted by JessieJay's in Deale.

New Business:

Scholar of the Month Signage: given by Alane Connolly

- Request made for new Scholar of the Month yard signs, estimate: 20 signs & 20 stakes for \$238.
- Plan to put teacher names on the backs of them to keep track of the returned items.
- It was suggested ordering at least 22-25 signs to have enough for each teacher and any additional positions.
- Motion Passed.

Taekwondo After-School Program: given by South River Martial Arts (SRMA)

- Looking at an after-school fundraising program to introduce students to Taekwondo.
- The program would be \$50 per student for 45-minutes of lessons twice a week for 3 weeks. Sponsorships available. Proceeds would go the PTO.
- Possible to potentially start program in Spring or Fall once approved
- Motion passed, baring the need to find teachers or administrators to be on site for the program.

Old Business:

Calendar of Events: given by Julia

- Assemblies Coming Up:
 - Anti-Bullying -- Friday, January 24
 - Meteorologist Justin Berk -- Thursday, February 13
 - Navy Band - Thursday, April 23

Unity Day Incentives:

- Suggestions: Looking at incentives that will teach kind actions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on February 20, 2020 at Shady Side Elementary

Minutes compiled by Kat Denning, Secretary

-- DRAFT --

To be voted on for approval at the February 2020 PTO Meeting